



Do Not Lie to One Another

COLOSSIANS 3:9–10 EPHESIANS 4:25



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WELCOME:

Fixing Our Focus

Suggested icebreaker:

Ask each GG member to say three statements about themselves, two of which are true and one false, and have the rest of the GG members try to determine which one is false.

WORSHIP:

Adoring Our God

Suggested songs:

- Christ Our Hope in Life and Death
- · Speak, O Lord

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WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

LESSON AIM

- 1. GG members will commit to a lifestyle of telling the whole truth to others.
- 2. GG members will submit to God's transforming influence in their lives.
- 3. GG members will help in the edification of fellow believers in the church.

INTRODUCTION

As born-again believers, our old selves have died, and we were given the new life that is available in Christ. We are now new creations of God (2 Corinthians 5:17). Because of this, we need to forsake our old habits, which include falsehood (any kind of alteration of the truth), and embrace our new God-given nature, which implies that we speak the truth, just as God is truth (John 14:6; 17:17). In our lesson, we will look at three reasons why we should speak the truth to one another.

Believers have put off their old selves (Colossians 3:9)

Paul likened the believer's old and new nature to clothes. Just as one takes off soiled, dirty clothes and changes into fresh, clean clothes, believers should put off their old nature. Part of the practice of the old nature is lying and falsehood.

- 1. What are some ways people lie to one another? Do they need to say something totally opposite to the truth to lie?
- 2. How did Paul and Peter describe the old self and its practices in Ephesians 4:22 and 1 Peter 2:1?
- 3. What do you think are the reasons why people lie to one another?

Application

What makes it difficult for you to abandon your old nature, particularly that of not telling the truth? How can your Growth Group help you in overcoming this?

Believers have put on their new selves (Colossians 3:10)

Believers have put off their old selves and their practices, which include lying and all forms of falsehood. They have replaced it with their new selves, provided by God in Christ, so that they can instead speak the truth in its entirety.

- 1. How did Paul describe the believer's new self?
- 2. How do you think a believer is renewed? What process does one go through? (cf. Ephesians 4:23; Romans 12:2)
- 3. What is the end goal of a believer's renewal or transformation? (cf. Ephesians 4:24; Romans 8:29) There is no difference whether a believer is being transformed into the image of God or of Christ, for Christ is the very image of God. (cf. Colossians 1:15)

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WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

Application

How can you surrender to God's transforming influence in your life? What are some things God is currently working on in your life?

Believers are members of one another (Ephesians 4:25)

Believers should speak the truth to one another, not only because they are being transformed into the image of God but also because they are all members of the body of Christ. In doing so, they help build up the body of believers into spiritual maturity.

- 1. How are believers members of one another? (cf. Ephesians 4:4; 1 Corinthians 12:13)
- 2. How are believers to treat each other as members of the body of Christ? (cf. Ephesians 4:11-13)
- 3. What happens to the body of Christ when its members speak the truth to each other? (cf. Ephesians 4:15-16)

Application

In what ways can you help the body of Christ, in particular our church family, grow in spiritual maturity by speaking the truth? Try to enumerate as many ways as possible.

PRAYER ITEM

Father God, help me to abandon my old sinful habits, where I twist and distort the truth, and help me be transformed into the image of Your Son, who is the very embodiment of truth. Please speak to me as I read and meditate upon Your word. May the transformative power of Your word be made manifest in my life and in the lives of our church family so that we may be Your witnesses in this world. All this I pray in Christ's name. Amen. ■



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